

# ***NEWS RELEASE***

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Daughters Honor Family Legacy with Donation**

### ***Grandfather and Father Dedicated Decades to Seguin***

**SEGUIN, Texas** – Five sisters are honoring their grandfather and father with a generous donation to the Seguin Fire Department.

“We’ve always valued everything at the fire department,” Dottsy Dwyer said. “Anything we can donate to the museum, we will.”

Earlier this week, sisters Dottsy Dwyer, Betty Lee Reiley, Barbara Von Minden, Carla Mergele and Toni Winters collectively donated \$500 for the restoration of the department’s antique fire trucks. The donation honors their grandfather, Willie Brodt and their father, Harold Brodt.

Combined, Willie and his son, Harold, dedicated more than 80 years of their lives protecting Seguin as volunteer firefighters. Willie served as a volunteer for about 25 years. Harold admired his father’s dedication so much that he became the department’s mascot in 1932, at the age of 12.

After serving his country in the United States Air Force during WWII, Harold was employed at Randolph Air Force Base for more than 32 years. His dedication to protecting people also brought him back to Seguin where he served as a volunteer firefighter for 58 years.

“We feel the fire department is a very important part of our father and grandfather’s heritage,” Dwyer continued. “We want to help save the items that were involved with the fire department back then.”

The sisters’ donation will be used for restoration efforts on the department’s three antique fire trucks. The funds will likely be used to replace tires on the city’s 1922 pumper truck. It’s the truck often seen in city parades. The city also owns two other antique trucks. One is a 1916 pumper and the other is a modified 1905 ladder truck. The ladder truck was originally horse-drawn but is modified with a 1912 Wichita Tractor. Only the 1922 truck currently runs.

This donation follows another \$500 donation from Parker’s City Pharmacy earlier this month. Pharmacy owner Doug Parker expressed hope his donation would prompt others.

“We greatly appreciate the generosity of the Brodt sisters,” Seguin Fire Chief Dale Skinner said. “Their father and grandfather dedicated so much of their lives to this city. This is a great way to honor them while helping to preserve the department’s history.”

People interested in donating can contact the Seguin Fire Department at (830) 401-2310.



The Brodt sisters present Seguin Fire Chief Dale Skinner with a \$500 check. The money honors their grandfather Willie Brodt and their father Harold Brodt. The Brodt men were long-time Seguin volunteer firefighters. Pictured left to right: Dottsy Dwyer, Toni Winters, Seguin Fire Chief Dale Skinner, Betty Lee Reiley, Barbara Von Minden and Carla Mergele.

### **About the City of Seguin**

Seguin, Texas is located along Interstate 10, about 35 miles east of San Antonio. Seguin is big enough to boast a top-rated university and a state-of-the-art hospital. More than 25,000 residents enjoy a range of cultural, recreational, and employment opportunities. Seguin's robust diversified economy features a steelmaker, a manufacturer of automotive parts and plants making roadside mowing equipment and building materials. In 2009, Seguin was proud to be selected by Caterpillar as the site of a major new engine manufacturing facility.

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